



**INSPECTION REPORT**

**THEATER OF THE SEA, INC**

**Customer ID:** 3130

**Certificate:** 58-C-0182

**Site:** 001

**THEATRE OF THE SEA**

**MM 84. 5 US HWY 1  
ISLAMORADO, FL 33036**

**Inspection**

**Type:** ROUTINE INSPECTION

**Date:** JAN-15-2003

**3.103 REPEAT NCI  
FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.**

(c) Perimeter fence. The fence must be constructed so that it protects marine mammals by restricting animals and unauthorized persons from going through it or under it and having contact with the marine mammals.

A cat was observed exiting the premises through the wooden perimeter fence on the highway side of the facility. The opening through which this animal exited was a natural separation in the boards of the fence that occurs as a result of the style of fence construction. This side of the perimeter fence borders the dolphin swim pool areas and would potentially allow animals to go through the fence, gain access to the facility and have contact with the dolphins.

All necessary repairs have been previously made to this fence. It was not predictable that animal entry could be made through the natural construction of the fence. During this inspection the facility ordered plastic mesh material which will be installed as reinforcement to this section of perimeter fence to restrict animal access.

The facility has completed construction of the chain link perimeter fence on the old road side of the facility and reactivated the premise alarm system.

**3.107  
SANITATION.**

(d) Pest control. A safe and effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites, avian and mammalian pests must be established and maintained.

During this inspection, domestic cats were observed in the dolphin swim pools one and two show exhibit areas and the dolphin lagoon area. One cat was also observed on the small beach in the main sea lion housing enclosure which also functions as the interactive area.

The facility had previously proposed a plan for mammalian pest control which included denying the cats access to the marine mammal interactive areas in order to minimize any potential disease transmission concerns.

Personnel were unaware that a cat was still gaining access to the sea lion area. During this inspection a barrier was

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ordered which will be installed at the fence top to further restrict access of cats to the sea lion area.

The facility was not aware that the pest control program which has been initiated restricting access by the cats to the animal interactive areas should include the show exhibit areas immediately adjacent to the dolphin swim pools. They have agreed to take immediate action to prohibit entry by the cats to these areas.

In order to resolve ongoing noncompliances surrounding the feline pest control program, the facility has initiated the permitting process necessary to begin construction of a cat housing area which will function as permanent confinement for the resident felines.

Correct by: Immediate action should be taken to ensure the free roaming domestic acts currently housed at this facility are not allowed access to the marine mammal interactive, exhibit or housing areas.

Exit interview conducted with (b)(6), (b)(7)c

Current animal inventory: 8 Tursiops, 4 California Sea Lions.

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